

REMARKS

Claims 8, 20, and 39 are pending in this application. By this amendment, Applicants cancel Claims 1, 2, 5-7, 9-19, and 21-25.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that Claims 8, 20, and 39 are allowed.

Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for allegedly being indefinite. Claim 5 has been canceled. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is moot.

Claims 1, 2, 5-7, 9-14, 18, 19, 21, 24, and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Furukawa et al. (U.S. 6,262,513) in view of JP 2002-217220, JP 7-176565, and JP 2003-283295. Claims 15 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Furukawa et al. in view of JP '220, JP '565, and JP '295, and further in view of Uchikoba (US 2002/0044030). Claims 15-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Furukawa et al. in view of JP '220, JP '565, and JP '295, and further in view of JP 61-295025. Claims 22 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Furukawa et al. in view of JP '220, JP '565, and JP '295, and further in view of Bureau et al. (U.S. 6,492,194).

Claims 1, 2, 5-7, 9-19, and 21-25 have been canceled. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the prior art rejections are moot.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 8, 20, and 39 are allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are solicited.

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The Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1353.

Respectfully submitted,

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